

Message Text

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72

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AF-10 OIC-04 CCO-00 CIAE-00

OTPE-00 EB-11 FCC-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 OC-06 RSC-01

COME-00 DRC-01 /086 W

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R 041559Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2889

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 616

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NL, FI, PO

SUBJECT: GON POSITION ON GUINEA BISSAU

REFS: (A) HELSINKI 202 (NOTAL)

(B) THE HAGUE 5258 (NOV 3, 73) (NOTAL)

(C) STATE 22192

1. SUMMARY: FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER STOEL SAID FEB 2 HE WILL RECEIVE DELEGATION FROM PAIGC ON FEB 9. VAN DER STOEL, WHO EMPHASIZED GON'S REGULAR CONTACTS WITH PAIGC THROUGH DUTCH AMBASSADOR IN MONROVIA, SAID GON WAS BUSY ON SEVERAL FRONTS IN EFFORT TO CONVINCE PORTUGUESE TO GIVE UP AFRICAN COLONIES. FONMIN DID NOT RPT NOT ADDRESS QUESTION OF WHETHER GON PREPARED RECOGNIZE GUINEA BISSAU UNILATERALLY. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RADIO INTERVIEW WITH LABOR PARTY YOUTH ORGANIZATION FEB 2, FONMIN VAN DER STOEL ANNOUNCED HE WOULD BE RECEIVING A PAIGC DELEGATION.
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GATION ON FEB 9. VAN DER STOEL NOTED DUTCH AMBASSADOR IN MONROVIA

WAS IN REGULAR CONTACT WITH THE PAIGC. FONMIN SAID THAT AS SOON AS GUINEA BISSAU INDEPENDENT, GON HOPES IT WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE UN. ASKED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT GON'S RECOGNITION INTENTIONS, FONMIN WAFFLED STATING GON AIMS PRIMARILY AT ELIMINATION OF ALL PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM IN AFRICA. "THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE IN TODAY'S CIRCUMSTANCES. WE MUST ARRIVE AT A COORDINATED APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM. THE NETHERLANDS CANNOT DO IT ALONE AT THE MOMENT. THIS MEANS THAT WE HAVE TO CANVASS FOR SUPPORT." FONMIN REMARKED STATE SECRETARY KOOIJMANS HAD VISITED SCANDINAVIA TO DISCUSS THE RECOGNITION ISSUE (REF A) AND THAT GON WAS ALSO TALKING WITHIN BENELUX AND EEC ABOUT WAYS TO INFLUENCE THE PORTUGUESE. BEGIN FYI: MFA OFFICER IN CHARGE SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS, WHO TOLD EMBOFF FEB 4 KOOIJMANS' MISSION BROKE NO NEW GROUND, SAID KOOIJMANS HAD IMPRESSION NORWAY WAS MOST LIKELY CANDIDATE FOR UNILATERALLY RECOGNIZING GUINEA BISSAU. END FYI.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT DURING SECOND CHAMBER FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE AT END NOVEMBER (REF B) VAN DER STOEL REJECTED LABOR AND RADICAL PARTIES' REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION OF GUINEA BISSAU, CONTENDING THAT UNILATERAL RECOGNITION WOULD NOT HAVE "BREAKTHROUGH QUALITY" HE FELT WAS NEEDED. DURING DEBATE VAN DER STOEL ANNOUNCED GON WOULD BE CONSULTING WITH SCANDINAVIANS AND EC PARTNERS ON JOINT APPROACH TO PORTUGUESE ON AFRICAN COLONIAL PROBLEMS. THIS IS SO-CALLED BOERTIEN PLAN (PROPOSAL OFFERED BY FORMER MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE) FOR COMMON APPROACH TO PORTUGUESE ON COLONIALISM ISSUE.

4. COMMENT: FONMIN IS UNDER CONTINUING PRESSURE FROM RADICALS AND LABOR PARTY'S LEFT WING TO RECOGNIZE GUINEA BISSAU. HIS DECISION TO RECEIVE PAIGC DELEGATION IS EFFORT TO BE "FORTHCOMING" ON GUINEA BISSAU ISSUE, WHILE STILL REFRAINING FROM RECOGNITION. FOR SAME REASON WE SUSPECT GON MAY BE TEMPTED VOTE YES ON GUINEA BISSAU MEMBERSHIP IN ITU AS SOP TO LEFT WING, ALTHOUGH GON PROBABLY SHARES DEPARTMENT'S VIEW EXPRESSED PARA 2, REF C ON MERITS SUCH MEMBERSHIP.
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Message Attributes

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